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BRIBERY CHARGE CASE
Allegations Of Corruption

That corruption in the Police Force, including European officers, was rife and that Chinese detectives were told to collect squeeze from gambling dens, opium dens and brothels for purchasing presents for senior officers, was alleged at the trial of Lance-Sergeant Detective Lau Chi on two counts of offering a bribe to Inspector W. N. Darkin, of the Special Branch, following a police raid on the Import and Export Department.

The trial, which was opened yesterday, is being heard by Mr. Justice E. H. Williams, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions. Mr. Leo d'Almada e Castro, instructed by Mr. Peter Sin, appeared for Lau and pleaded not guilty. Mr. A. J. Clifford, Crown Counsel, is conducting the prosecution, while Mr. W. F. Shaftain, Director of the Special Branch, was present for the Police.

Lau Chi, who has been in the police force since 1926, is accused of having offered \$3,000 and another \$300 to Inspector Darkin on Sept. 2 and Sept. 16, 1946.

Inspector W. N. Darkin, of the Special Branch, said that following a raid by him on Aug. 26, 1946, on the I & E, he was invited by Lau on Aug. 31 to a dinner party at the Kwong Chau Restaurant at West Point.

With permission from Mr. F. W. Shaftain, Senior Superintendent of Police and concurrently Director of the Special Branch, Darkin said he went to the party which was also attended by Lau, Police interpreter Ying, eight Chinese detectives and six Chinese Revenue Officers.

Before the dinner there was general conversation in which the I & E raid was discussed, and he was asked by Ying if he could help Yu Kam-ping and Lo Kam-to, two clerks of the I & E.

The conversation took place in English in the presence of Lau who, alleged Darkin, intervened and said that he would be glad and grateful if witness could help Yu and Lo.

Subsequently, Darkin continued, a meeting was arranged for him to meet Yu and Lo at Ying's home in Wanchai the next evening.

Again with Mr. Shaftain's authorization, witness said he went to Ying's house and met Yu and Lo, but Lau was not there.

Around 7 p.m. on Sept. 2, Darkin went on, Lau called on him at his quarters in the French Mission and handed him \$3,000 which accused said was part of the \$10,000 from To and Yu. Darkin alleged that Lau informed him that the balance, \$7,000, would be paid at the conclusion of the I & E inquiry.

The following morning, witness said, he handed the \$3,000 to Mr. Shaftain.

Lau again visited him at the French Mission on the evening of Sept. 16 and gave him \$300, saying that this was

witness' share from gambling houses contribution in the Central District and was given him for helping I & E friends. Darkin said he passed the money on to Mr. Shaftain.

To Mr. d'Almada, Darkin said he joined the Police Force in 1922 and had known Lau for many years and was Lau's direct superior officer at No. 2 Station between 1937-38. Asked his opinion about Lau, Darkin said he had confidence in him and regarded his conduct as exemplary and his work efficient as a detective.

Describing the usual custom for Chinese detectives to visit European officers at Christmas and Chinese New Year, Darkin said it would be too much of an insult should a European officer refuse to accept a hamper from a Chinese detective who had gone to the trouble of purchasing it. Witness, however, emphatically denied having accepted red packets at Chinese New Year from detectives and having seen his children being given them.

As he was a teetotaler, witness said, he never accepted hampers of liquor other than fruits.

Mr. d'Almada: You know there is a widespread belief in Hong Kong that corruption in the Police Force is rife?—That's so. I would not say it was rife but there is a certain amount of it.

Do you know this public opinion extends to European officers too?—Yes, I do.

And that is true to a certain extent?—Yes.

Don't you think it is true of the position now?—I would not like to say.

Ordinary Dinner

His Lordship remarked that the witness was to speak facts and his views of public opinion were off the tracks.

Continuing to reply to Mr. d'Almada's cross-examination, Darkin said it was an ordinary Chinese dinner and he was not aware it was a birthday party for Lau's wife.

Witness said he saw Inspector Wong Lau, Crown Sergeant Yau Cheung and other detectives at the party at which he did not see any dumplings or noodles (usually eaten at a Chinese birthday party).

The discussion of the I & E raid was open and could be heard by everyone at the table, witness added. Saying that Chinese usually had no hesitation in soliciting help when in trouble, Darkin refuted Mr. d'Almada's suggestion that the reason they approached him confidently that time was that they had approached him in similar circumstances previously in connection with other cases.

Witness said he did not recollect that the Chinese phrase—Sam na Wong—(squeeze) was mentioned at that discussion.

Was the raid on the I & E in connection with squeeze?—It was in connection with a great many things—that were wrong.

I would be very surprised if any inquiry into any Government department did not concern squeeze?—They only asked me what we were doing with the papers taken from the I & E.

Not Spy

So this was a police trap. I put it to you that you were a policy spy, an provocateur?—I'm not a spy or agent provocateur.

Asked why he thought that they should approach him for help, Darkin replied it was because he was well known to them all and also well known to them all and also well known to them all.

Explaining that, apart from Government order, once a senior officer accepted gifts from his subordinates he would have lost control over them, Darkin denied having taken gifts such as a diamond ring, whisky, turkey and ham from the Chinese detective while he was in No. 2 Station.

Mr. PCC Wan Tong came to say that he did take presents from Chinese detectives, Darkin said he would certainly relate the allegations.

In reply to a question by Mr. d'Almada, witness agreed that the police collected squeeze from gambling houses, opium dens

and brothels but denied that this collection was shared between the officers, including himself, at No. 2 Station.

Mr. d'Almada: Lau will say further that in May or June, 1938, the detectives under you jointly bought a diamond ring for you?

His Lordship: Would that surprise you, Inspector Darkin?

Inspector Darkin: Yes, certainly it would surprise me very much.

Not Tempered

Mr. d'Almada: At this dinner you discussed the high cost of living and the small salaries. Do you feel the same way about your pay?—I always have. (laughter).

Witness said that he was asked at the dinner when his wife and children would be returning to Hong Kong from Australia, but denied having told those present that he was worried as he had to buy furniture and clothing for them.

While agreeing with Mr. d'Almada that he need not have let Mr. Shaftain know he had received the money, Darkin declared that he certainly would not be tempted to keep it as a bribe for himself.

Darkin further denied having complained to Lau on the second occasion when the payment of \$300 was made, about the high cost of living upon which Lau took out the \$300 from his own pocket as a present to him.

Witness went on to deny that he had asked Lau to get several coolies to clean his house at No. 18, Babington Path. He said he never moved into such a house, though he did move to the Government Quarters at Breezy Point later from the French Mission.

Re-examined by Mr. Clifford, witness said he had no reason to cook up a story against Lau.

Lau's Evidence

To Mr. Justice Williams, witness said that \$300 would be more than three months' pay to Lau.

Mr. Shaftain testified to the effect that Darkin had informed him of the dinner party and that he had given Darkin permission to accept the payments. In all, he said, he received \$3,300 from Darkin.

Lau Chi, 45, Lance Sergeant Detective, said he joined the police in 1926 and had known Darkin for 12 or 13 years and was once under Darkin at No. 2 Station for 26 months during which period he had many dealings with him.

"Darkin lived in the quarters in the station and I used to visit him. He often borrowed money from the Chinese detectives. We used to buy eggs, fish and other things for him for which he never paid."

"When we had bought many things for him, we complained to him about my inability of doing so on account of small pay. Then he said to me: 'You can send your informers to collect money from opium dens, etc., and make good use of it. I will not carry cut raids on them.'"

"It was the practice for informers to collect money from opium dens and others once a month. Besides buying things for Darkin from the collection, the balance of about \$200 was given to him every month."

His Lordship: How long did this continue?—For a year or so while I was under Darkin at No. 2 Station.

Bought Rings

Continuing, Lau said: "Altogether I was with Darkin for three Christmas seasons. On each occasion, we brought to his quarters for him wine, cigarettes, turkey and other things. Before we bought these things for him, he came down to the detectives' quarters and told us of what he wanted. On one Christmas, PCC Wan Tong was there when he came to tell us what he wanted us to purchase for him. On Chinese New Year, we also bought presents for him."

"On one occasion in May or June, 1938, Darkin told us that he wanted a diamond ring. We detectives jointly contributed and bought one at \$800 for him. In Aug. or Sept. the same year, he again told us that his wife also wanted a diamond ring, so we bought another for him."

"After the fall of Hong Kong to the Japanese, I went back to my village in Tun Kun and went

Traffic Control At Ferry

An innovation introduced by the Police in Kowloon was noticed outside the Star Ferry wharf yesterday. This took the form of a van, manned by members of the E.U., under S/I Clark, and S/I Bell of the Traffic Department, and equipped with an amplifier.

On the arrival of a ferry, passengers making their way into or leaving the wharf were requested, by means of the amplifier, to "Please keep the road clear."

URBAN COUNCIL ESTIMATES

Estimates for the financial year 1947/48 involving a sum of \$2,514,701 were approved at a meeting of the Urban Council held yesterday.

Personal emoluments involve a sum of \$1,060,789, Other Charges, \$988,042, and Special Expenditure, \$465,870.

Another black ticketeer, Lee Wing-cheung, was fined \$30, or three weeks' hard labour, when he was convicted by Mr. Lallimer at Kowloon yesterday on the charge of offering two K.C.R. tickets for sale at 7.30 a.m. on Feb. 3. S/I Askew prosecuted.

into business through which I made altogether about HK\$20,000 net profit. I returned to the Colony after the liberation and rejoined the force on Sept. 1, 1945."

Referring to a meeting with Darkin on Aug. 31, 1946, in the Police Headquarters in the Oriental Building, Lau said that he went there to look for his Chinese friends and met Darkin by chance in the passage.

Dinner Party

"On this occasion, I invited him to a dinner party at the same evening at the Kwong Chau Restaurant and told him that it was my wife's birthday party."

There were two tables, one being taken up by his woman relatives and the other for his male relatives and colleagues, including Darkin, and friends. There were noodles and dumpling on the table.

"At the table before the dinner, interpreter Ying was talking to Darkin in English which I did not understand. I did not intervene nor did I tell him that we would be grateful if he could help To and Yu (neither was present)."

"It was not until Darkin himself spoke in Chinese to everyone at the table that he was making inquiries into the squeeze by Yu and To. To that I came to know this and intervened and remarked to him that the pay was too small and it was difficult to get good work from informers."

"Then Darkin told us that he was worried about his wife's and children's impending return as he had to buy furniture and clothing for them. He further asked me to get a few coolies to clean the house as he would be moving into No. 18, Babington Path, after their arrival."

Not Bribe

"On Sept. 1, while I was in a club in Des Voeux Road, a stranger, Sui, came and gave me \$3,000, asking me to pass it on to Darkin from To and Yu. I went to Darkin's home and gave him the money, telling him only that it was from Yu and To. He took it and put it into his trousers pocket and told me not to tell anyone about it. I did not know clearly what the money was for."

"On Sept. 16, I went to see him about the coolie affair. I did give \$300 on that occasion as he complained to me that he did not have enough money as things were so expensive. I told him he could take it and repay me later. I did not tell him it was his share from the gambling dens."

"I did not give him either the \$3,000 or the \$300 as bribe."

To Mr. Clifford, Lau said his pay including allowance amounted to \$168 a month, out of which he had to pay small sums to informers since Government would pay informers only on proved cases.

Mr. Clifford: Since you said you made a lot of money in business during the war, why did you still want to rejoin the Police force at \$118 a month?—I was looking forward to my pension as I have been in the force for many years.

Did you report to anyone over Darkin's dishonesty as you alleged he asked you to collect money from opium dens and others?—Never.

Why?—Because I was told by him not to tell others.

Have you ever told any Government official, like Mr. Shaftain, about Darkin's dishonesty?—No.

I suggest to you that you did not report to anyone because there was no such dishonesty in Darkin?—Yes, there was.

Can you account for the reason why Yu and To picked you to pass the money to Darkin?—Perhaps they knew that I was very friendly with Darkin.

The case was adjourned to this morning.

C.I.D. Hush-Hush In Kowloon Arrest

(By Margaret Bradbury)

Considerable hush-hush is being maintained by the Department of Criminal Investigation over the arrest of a Chinese who, according to a very short official release granted by a senior police officer, after having satisfied himself that the Chinese press had already printed a piece on the subject, came out with the following official bulletin:

"A Chinese male, Leung Yam Hong, aged 23, was arrested at the Kowloon Railway Station from the Canton express at 3.45 on Saturday afternoon and found to be carrying two sticks of explosives concealed in his clothing, and one detonator. He was taken to Water Police Station and searched. He was found to also be in possession of a number of documents."

Meanwhile, facts gathered from less official but reliable sources add up to the conclusion that the man suspected of being a prominent member of the Overseas Chinese Youth Action Organisation, 23 years old Leung Yam Hong, is now under lock and key in police custody here.

From the same sources, I understand that he was in possession of about 30 documents, which are thought to be threatening letters.

Soap

In Kowloon Police Court Hong was charged with being in possession of a detonator and is being remanded in custody according to the Police Press liaison officer, until the report of the Government chemist who is examining the explosive, is handed in to the police authorities.

Some insight into police procedure was also given by the explanation from the same officer that sticks of dynamite had in the past turned out to be nothing more harmful than soap.

When I suggested that as the police had received a number of bricksbats in connection with the undiscovered identity of the culprits responsible for sending threatening letters, and that less official secrecy would result in more confidence the Press liaison officer declared: "Police shoulders are very broad." He said: "The documents found on Hong Kong have not yet been translated."

H.K. Gift Squadron

During the war a close association was built up between the British Colonies and the R.A.F. by means of "gift squadrons," the aircraft for which were bought from money subscribed for this purpose.

The Hong Kong gift squadron, No. 114, has recently been disbanded owing to the reduction in the number of front-line squadrons, but the Colonial Office has asked that the association between Hong Kong and the R.A.F. should be continued by the nomination of another squadron to bear the name.

The Air Ministry has therefore selected No. 209 Flying Boat Squadron, in Air Command, Far East, to bear the Hong Kong title. This squadron, to be known in future as the No. 209 Hong Kong Squadron, has been closely associated with Hong Kong since the Japanese surrender and it is planned that a flight will ultimately be based there.

FETE WINNING TICKETS

The following are the winning tickets in the Murray Barracks Parade Ground Fete:—

28770, 28639, 22228, 12707, 21279, 04651, 02047, 22253, 03494, 18050, 28938, 03893, 24545, 27830, 28753, 22375, 24955, 20384, 21243, 04070 and 12625.

Holders of winning tickets are requested to call at the office of Mr. Brook Bernachi, Room 232 Prince's Building, for their prizes. Winner of the treasure hunt was M. Crutejo.

The Annual General Meeting of the St. Stephen's Girls' College Alumnae Association will be held at the Y.W.C.A., Duddell Street, on Saturday, Feb. 8 at 2.30 p.m. Past students and members are cordially invited to attend.

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MARRIAGE

LEE SEQUEIRA—On January 25, 1947, at the Church of Christ the King, Shanghai, by the Rev. Leo F. McGraw, S.J., officiating, William S. J. Ebert, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Lee of Hazardville, Connecticut, to Elidia Cecilia, daughter of the late Augusto Antonio Sequeira and of Mrs. Marie da Silva Sequeira, of Shanghai.

SMITH—NEWNHAM—On Jan. 20, 1947, quietly, in Edinburgh, Brigadier Walter John Lindley Smith to Mrs. Phyllis Newnham, widow of Colonel L. A. Newnham, G.C., M.C.

SAI ON DISASTER

High rumours circulating yesterday implying that the "Sai On" fire disaster may not have been accidental in its origin will, presumably, ensure a close official inquiry into the calamity. It does not follow, even if threatening letters were received, that the tragic outbreak was actually started by incendiaries, but it is imperative that all the circumstances be investigated publicly, covering two all the factors which contributed to the heavy toll of human life. No final estimate of the total of deaths was possible even late into yesterday evening, but it was known to be in excess of 130 and might well pass the 200 mark by the time the grim task of the rescue workers had been completed. The rapidity with which the fire spread, involving companion ways, and the hampering of escapes by the system of anti-piracy girdles, aided by the inevitable panic, were features of the tragedy that call for study by experts. Quite a number of the victims were not passengers but were on board paying farewells to relatives and friends just prior to the "Sai On's" departure for Canton. Even so, it seems appalling (demanding explanation) that the death toll should have been so shockingly high when the evidence indicates that the fire brigade was, thanks to a watcher on the roof of the Harbour Office, actually on its way to the wharf before the alarm was raised aboard the "Sai On." The disaster ranks as among the worst known in the harbour of Hong Kong and it cannot be permitted to pass into future history without an inquiry which may serve to bring out the possibility of measures that will prevent a repetition.

THE WAY OPEN

From the frank exchange of messages between Mr. Bevin and Marshal Stalin, it is evident that the Foreign Secretary's broadcast before Christmas, awakened genuine misgivings in the Kremlin. Why is a matter for some wonder. It may be that the repeated attacks made on Mr. Bevin by his back-bench critics for his supposed lack of cordiality to Russia are taken more seriously there than in London. Why these misgivings should have been expressed through Field-Marshal Montgomery and the controversial columns of Pravda it is also idle to speculate. What is now relevant is to observe that with the irritation removed, the Soviet Government attaches the same meaning and the same importance to an Anglo-Soviet Alliance as does the British Government. The Alliance has existed since 1942 and will exist, unless it be revised, until 1962; nor has there been any suggestion on the British side of abrogating it. Some of its articles have been, satisfactorily fulfilled by the successful end of the war. Others may cease to be relevant with the development of the United Nations organization, and were indeed explicitly designed in the text to be so superseded. But nothing in the Treaty nor in the Charter of the United Nations has suggested any inconsistency between the two documents, and

Mr. Bevin's remark in his December broadcast that "Britain does not tie herself to anybody except in regard to her obligations under the Charter" surely meant nothing more than that no existing Alliance excluded similar Alliances—such, for example, as Britain hopes to conclude with France. What seems to have aroused disquiet in Moscow is the fact that Mr. Bevin did not mention the Anglo-Soviet Alliance specifically in his broadcast. He has, of course, repeatedly mentioned it on other occasions and offered to extend it from a 20 years' duration to 50 years, without arousing any reply from Moscow except occasional cynical comments. Marshal Stalin, in his latest, most cordial message, remarks that "if one is to speak seriously of such an extension, it is necessary to change it, freeing it from the reservations which weaken it." This Mr. Bevin has already taken up and, once, as the Generalissimo says, the exchange of messages leaves no room for misunderstandings, there seems good hope of amending the Treaty in a way to satisfy both parties.

General Marshall: How Much Will Policy Change

Washington, Feb. 2.—How much will American foreign policy be changed as the result of the appointment of Gen. George C. Marshall as Secretary of State and the Republican domination of Congress?

Competent observers believe that General Marshall will face a major dispute with the top-ranking Republican unless he is willing to change United States policy, while Byrnes' "Get tough with Russia" policy will be made even tougher.

Great importance is being attached to Republican Senator Vandenberg's recent Cleveland speech, his first since he took over the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee, where he will direct the consideration of all peace treaties. Less than a week after Marshall had published his Chinese report, damning extremists, both in Chiang Kai-shek's Government and among the Communists, Vandenberg suggested the abandonment of United States mediation efforts between the warring parties and called on the country to throw its diplomatic, economic and military weight behind the Nationalist Government and non-Communist minority parties. This would appear to differ from Marshall's opinion that China's only hope lies in the liberal groups of all parties.

Tough To Russia

Vandenberg made it clear at Cleveland that the Republican Party will have nothing to do with anything but a tough policy towards Russia and, in the course of a discussion on America and the United Nations, said: "If one day some aggressor leaves the United Nations in order to be free of its restraint the rest of the world has ready made at hand the well-greased machinery for another and immediate grand alliance swiftly and overwhelmingly to confront the offender."

The eyes of America, and of the world, will be upon Marshall when he takes his place alongside the Russians' able and experienced negotiators—Foreign Minister Molotov and Deputy Foreign Minister Vishinsky.

The Soviets will be watching him too. They have recently switched to a more conciliatory attitude towards the western world and will weigh Marshall's every word and gesture to determine his attitude toward them and the future course of American policy.

It is to Marshall's advantage that his initiation into diplomatic affairs during the past year has been in one of the toughest spots in the world—civil war-torn China. For 13 exasperating, frustrating months he has watched oriental "diplomacy", intrigue, suspicion and corruption at its worst.

By Comparison

With that background, Big Four negotiations and the endless debates with the Russians over procedure in detail may, to the General, seem simple by comparison.

Those who watched Marshall during the war at Big Three military conferences and have followed his short diplomatic career in China predict that he will meet the test well. He can be firm when necessary and, as he showed in China, has the patience of Job.

The Russians are known to admire great military men.

Marshall is believed to be the kind of a man—frank, firm and understanding.

During the war the Russians gained tremendous respect for him. He was decorated with the Soviet order of Suvorov. He received the award on the night the Western Allies invaded Normandy and the then Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Andrei Gromyko, credited Marshall with "a considerable part of the success" as achieved by the Allies on the fronts of North Africa, Italy and the serial war over Europe.

Some Misgiving

There may be some misgivings in the United States about the appointment of a military man to the traditionally civilian job of Secretary of State, but they may be tempered by relief that such a man will find it easier to get along with the Russians.

The speaker of the House of Representatives, Joseph Martin, expressed such a thought when he said "Marshall should give that dignified firmness and type of leadership that is consistent with the strength of Americans."

The Vandenberg-Byrnes dispute over Argentina, which has been in progress for a year, may or may not be carried over into the Marshall regime. No one here knows Marshall's views regarding Argentina, but Byrnes and Vandenberg made it clear in Cleveland how far apart they have been in this issue.

Vandenberg called for an immediate Pan-American Conference to negotiate a permanent hemisphere defence pact and charged that Byrnes, by delaying the conference, had injured the good neighbour policy.

General Reaction

Byrnes answered Vandenberg when he reiterated his April 8 statement that the United States would not sit down at a conference with Argentina to negotiate such a defense pact until Argentina had fulfilled her Inter-American commitments, especially the one to rid the country of Nazi influences.

Many experienced diplomatic observers regarded Marshall's appointment favourably from the standpoint of international relations.

This general reaction rests on the fact that Marshall, as Chief of Staff, was thoroughly conversant with hemispheric affairs and was extremely attentive and cooperative to Latin American officers and diplomats throughout the war.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

CONTRAST IN LEADS

There are two extremely contrasting types of opening leads, when considered from the broadest standpoint. One is conservative and the other is venturesome. Whether to favor one of these or the other depends on many circumstances, but especially the kind of bidding which has been done. If the declarer seems to be in a contract which is likely to be difficult to make, you should lean toward care to prevent giving him the trick which may make his project successful. But if he and his partner did bidding which makes the contract seem very safe against normal defense, your job, in rubber contract is to become aggressive—or should the word be offensive?—to strive for some trick which would not come without conscious effort on your part.

S. Q J 7 5
H. K 9 5 4
D. K 4 3
C. A J

S. A 3
H. 7 6
D. 10 7 6 2
C. 9 6 5 3 2

N. H. A 3
W. E. D. Q 9 5
S. C. K 7 4

S. K 10 8
H. K Q 10 8 2
D. A 8
C. Q 10 8

(Dealer: South. North-South vulnerable.)
South West North East
1 H Pass 3 H Pass
4 H

That bidding sounded awful strong to West, as if the contract probably would be easy to make unless radical steps were taken at once. As to whether he was right or wrong, just

During that period Marshall strengthened all agencies concerned with inter-American military cooperation, fostered the inter-American Defense Commission and had many personal contacts among officers of the American Republics.

It is believed that in the civilian fields his attitude will be one of admitting cooperation and goodwill and persons familiar with his methods and manner predict that his ties with the Latin-American Diplomatic Corps will swiftly become personal and friendly. Marshall is reputed for his geographic and historical knowledge, and it is believed that he would encourage inter-American relations from a comprehensive standpoint and awareness of historical factors that contributed to regional relationships among the American Republics.

First Step

As regards Marshall's views on the particular problem of Argentina, they would doubtless be influenced by his wartime experience and views on hemispheric defense. It is too early yet to anticipate his probable policy and attitude, but current surmises, based on his earlier methods, are that Marshall as the first step would thoroughly inform himself on the entire Argentine situation, consulting responsible departmental officers for information and background.

Since many influential senators think Argentine relations a matter for consideration on the highest political level, it is surmised that Marshall would consult the President and members of the Cabinet before making any irrevocable decision.

To his new assignment, the 66-year-old General brings candor, versatility, poise and a friendly personality backed up with a strong will to do his best. These attributes will serve him well in parrying with foreign diplomats.

Retains Rank

He will retain his rank as Five-Star-General. Under a special Act of Congress, Five-Star-Generals and Admirals do not retire, but only revert to inactive status.

Washington's politically surcharged air never has made it famous as a "city of brotherly love." But throughout the direction of the war, Marshall gained a position unique in public life through his lack of enemies and critics. Whether history will uphold this accolade will depend on events in the months to come.—United Press.

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"Okay, so I'm training junior to step into my shoes! I still don't remember saying anything about my shirts and neckties!"

Takes Americans For A Joy Ride

Frankfurt, Germany, Feb. 3.

A modern Bulgarian Beau Brummel who used his hypnotic personality to win his way into the confidence of American officers up to the rank of general, and into the arms of WAC officers at this United States Army headquarters, has been exposed after an investigation which led Army investigators all over Europe.

The United Press obtained the story from three different sources. They included the culprit himself, who sits in jail here awaiting deportation to Bulgaria, and from army officials who confirmed most of Peter Guverdzhevsky's story and did not deny the rest of it. Unofficially, part of the story is being suppressed to protect the very red faces of several American officers, both male and female.

"Just call me Pete," the English speaking masquerader invited his American friends during his year-long impersonation career. This career included everything from dramatic jail breaks and sleight-of-hand (coff) removals to flights with American officers to the capitals of Europe and being guest of honor at an American general's party on the Riviera.

Despite the fact that investigators once cracked him with being a high priority Russian spy, the little 24-year-old glamour boy today stands legally acquitted of everything except masquerading in American and Russian uniforms, obtaining food and lodging under false pretences, and leading certain American officers around by the nose. A military government court has sentenced him to two years' imprisonment which means automatic deportation.

Joined Tito

No one knows exactly when this Aladdin Wonderland fantasy first began but army investigator reports reveal that the Bulgarian flight lieutenant, born in Kneka, Bulgaria, deserted to Marshal Tito's Yugoslav partisans in 1943, and was captured by the Germans.

American army forces liberated him from a German camp near Leipzig at the war's end and handed him in a displaced persons' camp at Kassel. It was there that he first planned his flights of grandeur and acquired his first American uniform, wearing a first lieutenant's bars on his helmet liner and officer's shirt, together with several out-of-uniform-German insignia pieces.

He drew his first snappy American salutes at Frankfurt and Wiesbaden. Then he began travelling in the best society the military had to offer.

It was during this stage in his career that he made his first acquaintance with WAC officers. Peter delighted in telling army investigators and his reporter story of bedroom intimacies with WAC officers and a few frankings on the side. Army officials admit WAC officers were involved. When arrested, Peter had a whole album of signed pictures of women.

Stalin Pin

It was also during this period that Peter first attracted the attention of suspicious army officials and was arrested. The arrest gave him an opportunity to demonstrate his ability to slip off the handcuffs and to break out of jail. No one knows yet where the hunch came from that saved the bars of the Frankfurt jail.

In the next act of his dramatic fantasy, Peter showed up in the uniform of a lieutenant-colonel of the Russian air force. He wore a collection of decorations which ranged from a Stalin pin, a German Four-le-Merite, a Turkish Star and Crescent, a Zeppelin, and an American pilot's wings; to a fancy red and white cord looped around his right shoulder.

His forged identity papers, which he says he bought from a Russian officer at Glessen, stated that he was a Russian officer and

a hero of the skies over Russia's battlegrounds of World War II.

Arrested in the huge casino mess at the army's European headquarters here by an army investigator who recognized him from the days before his first arrest, Peter was placed in the hands of a military police lieutenant at the casino's entrance to await arrival of MPs to take him to jail.

While waiting, Guverdzhevsky drew himself up to the full dignity of a Russian officer, stared the second lieutenant in the face, and demanded his release.

Screams To Freedom

When the lieutenant demurred, Peter flashed his forged identity papers, screamed that he, as a high-ranking Soviet officer, had to catch a plane in 15 minutes. If the imposed delay caused him to miss the plane it would go hard with the lieutenant, he threatened. Imagining the entire weight of Russian army officialdom descending upon his head, the young lieutenant quailed under the pressure and allowed his prisoner to go.

Our Bulgarian hero next appeared on the Riviera, after a trip through Luxembourg and France, where he used his phony identification papers to change German reconnaissance into francs. On the Riviera he touted his own horn loudly to the tune of dozens of German planes shot down in Russia and of leading the Red air forces to glorious victory.

Before this brassy onslaught, it is reported, the American army fell prey to the extent of further personal friendships, male and female, and a party sponsored by an American general. It was there that Peter continued his exploitation of the American air force which altogether netted him air vacation flights to Rome, London, Paris, Cannes and Nice. It was also there that Peter was finally betrayed by a woman, one of his former victims. It was reported that, besides love, he also extracted money from some female friends.—United Press.

Basques Held Without Trial

London, Feb. 3.

The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Christopher Mayhew, told the House of Commons today that the Government is making inquiries of the Spanish Government about the nine Basques who, according to the questioner, Mr. Francis Noel Baker (Labour) have been detained for two years 11 months without trial. Mr. Noel Baker asked for a protest to be sent to the Spanish Government on grounds of postponement of court martial and that the "only accusation against those men was that they attempted on Jan. 21, 1944, to join the Allied forces in France."

Mr. Mayhew said that the men were being held in prison and their trial was not likely to take place for two or three months. If the result of the inquiries provided ground for intervention "we will certainly take the case up with the Spanish authorities," he said. Mr. Mayhew: "Does not the fact that they have been detained for two years 11 months provide sufficient grounds for intervention?" Mr. Mayhew: "It provides ground for anxiety and inquiries are being made."—Reuter.



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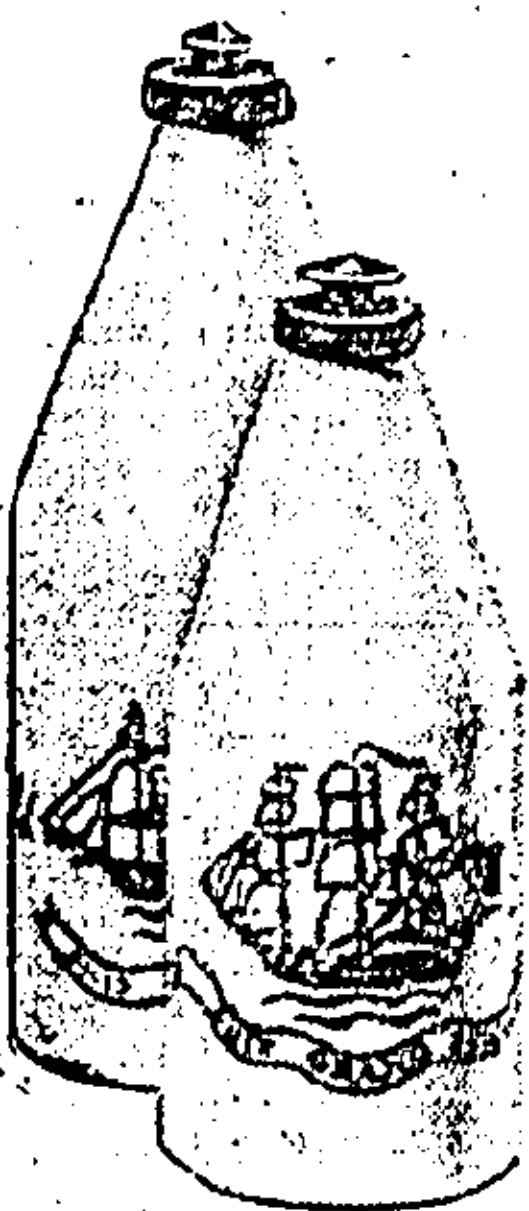
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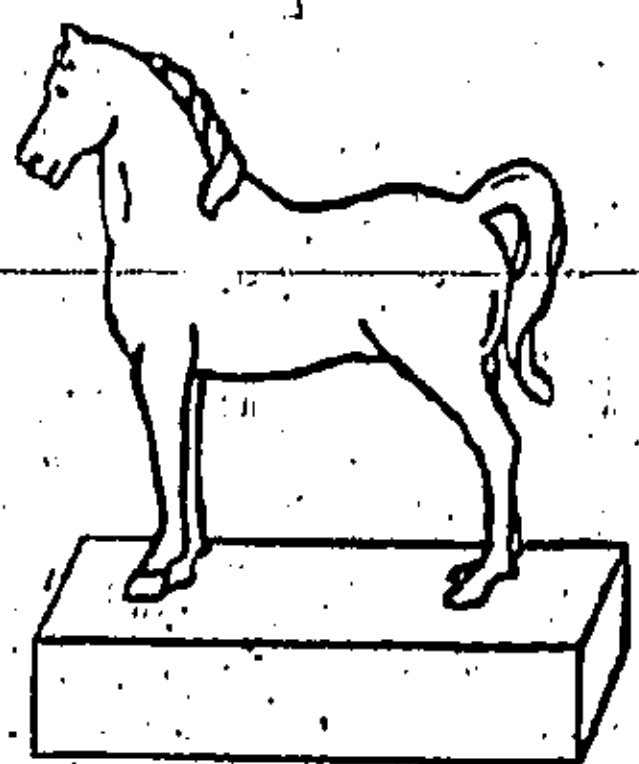
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ULTIMATUM IN PALESTINE

Jewish Agency Given Week To Cooperate

Note From Chief Secretary

Soprano Cracked Tumbler

London, Feb. 3.

An irate reader wrote to the Times today that a soprano singing an aria in the B.B.C. programme had "reached" a note whose vibrations shattered a tumbler on his dining room table, showering him with glass.

"One of these fine days serious damage might be caused, resulting in a possible lawsuit," he declared, adding: "For the life of me I cannot see who would be the defendant, an interesting problem."

The writer said the incident occurred during a broadcast of Madame Butterfly and that his subsequent research—done by tapping a similar tumbler—revealed that as the singer reached the top note the tumbler exploded into a thousand pieces with a loud report. Fragments were scattered over my wife and myself and a greater part of the room.

He added that the tumbler was of the thick "unbreakable" type and was half full "unfortunately only with water."

United Press.

Gruner Case Drama

Jerusalem, Feb. 3.

There were two dramatic developments today in the case of Gruner, the 33-year-old Jewish terrorist now lying under sentence of death in Jerusalem's grim central prison. Gruner's sister, Mrs. Helen Friedman, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, cabled to Chief Rabbi Herzog tonight to "try to save my brother until I reach Palestine."

It is understood that she is planning to fly to Palestine.

Menahem Beigin, "Commander-in-Chief" of the Irgun Zvai Leumi terrorists, personally ordered Gruner to withdraw his application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council, it is learned tonight from most reliable quarters.

When Gruner's Russian-born lawyer, Asher Levitsky, refused to hand back the appeal papers which Gruner had signed, he received a letter from the Irgun Zvai Leumi warning him of the consequences, it is reported.

Gruner will not be hanged before Wednesday, according to a message received tonight from the all-Jewish city of Tel Aviv.

Rabbi Samuel Cooper, who visited Mr. Gruner in his cell on a recent trip to the Middle East, cabled him today: "I beg you to sign the appeal for the sake of your sister and aunt, who should be spared further anguish; to fight for our life as sacred as the struggle for a free Jewish Palestine for which you are ready to die."

Jerusalem, Feb. 3.
The Palestine Government tonight sent a dramatic ultimatum to the Jewish Agency giving the Jews seven days in which to "lend aid to the Government by cooperating with the police and armed forces" in hunting down the terrorists. It was reliably learned from Jewish Agency sources.

The ultimatum was contained in a note sent by Sir Henry Gurney, Chief Secretary of the Palestine Government, to the Jewish Agency.

It reads: "Over a long period the Government has repeatedly warned the leaders of the Jewish community of the dangers of the growth of terrorism and the disastrous consequences which, unless checked, this would ultimately bring to the Jewish people themselves."

"In spite of a recent resolution purporting to condemn bloodshed and terrorism, there have been few signs of any action contemplated by the Jewish authorities or community to make use of the only means available for the enforcement of law and order—namely the security forces."

"In fact, the Jewish Agency has now openly refused its co-operation with the Government in this matter."

Moral Duty

The last sentence is a reference to the statement to a press conference here yesterday by Mrs. Meyerson of the Jewish Agency that the Government wanted the Agency to call on the Jewish community to become informers and this the agency had refused to do.

The note continues: "I am now to invite your attention to the extreme gravity of the situation which has been created by these continued refusals and to ask you to state categorically at once whether the agency and the Vaad Leumi (Jewish National Council for Palestine) are prepared within seven days to lend their aid to the Government by co-operating with the police and armed forces in locating and bringing to justice members of terrorist groups."

"I am to point out that what is being demanded is recognition of the ordinary legal and moral duty to cooperate against crime which belongs to citizens and institutions of any civilized state, and it can in no way be associated with the terms informer and spy."

"This letter is addressed to you on express direction of Sir Allan Cunningham, the High Commissioner."

British Effort

Meanwhile, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, veteran Jewish leader, is expected to arrive in Palestine, possibly during the night, from England. The Vaad Leumi has called an emergency meeting for Wednesday to discuss the present "critical" situation. Exploration is still the main feature of the British effort to find a settlement of the Palestine problem, according to authoritative London quarters tonight.

These closely in touch with the discussion say that the situation in Palestine cannot be allowed to deteriorate indefinitely. Ministers responsible for continuation of the talks recognise that the two opposed points of view cannot be driven together—they must be encouraged to nearer approach.

Recent reports have tended to which you are ready to die."—Reuter.

COURT MARTIAL SENTENCES

London, Feb. 3.

Sentences were promulgated on nine corporals who were tried by court martial at Lichfield on Jan. 3 and 9 on a charge of mutiny arising out of embarkation on the Empress of Scotland at Liverpool on Dec. 10.

The sentences ranged from three years penal servitude to six months' and reduction to the ranks.—Reuter.

Loading Hazard To Safety

Washington, Feb. 3.

The United States Civil Aeronautics Board declared today that overloading by foreign companies of American built planes "constitutes a hazard to public safety."

The statement was made in an order providing that foreign airlines operating American-made planes over routes in the United States must conform with the United States weight standards.

The regulation follows a number of crashes in Europe of Dakotas, owned by companies which permitted their loading up to 3,800 lbs above the maximum weight of 25,200 lbs in the United States.

The regulation which is effective from March 1 will not affect foreign companies operating foreign built planes.—Reuter.

TAKEN OFF SHIP

Port Talbot, Wales, Feb. 3.

Eleven Greek seamen carrying their kit bags and rolled up umbrellas were today taken off the Greek steamer Stavros, lying off Port Talbot, which was arrested on Friday pending into court of £5,000.

The steamer later left for Galveston, Texas, to be loaded with wheat for Switzerland.—Reuter.

French Plan For Ruhr Control

Paris, Feb. 3.

The French plan for international control of the Ruhr coalmines and heavy industries was made public today by the Economic Director of the Foreign Office, M. Herve Alphand, at

M. Alphand flatly denied reports that France had given up her demands for the political separation of the Ruhr from the remainder of Germany, saying these claims remained unchanged.

Under the French plan, coal mines and heavy industries of the Ruhr would be confiscated from German owners and ownership invested in the members of the United Nations "directly interested" in Germany.

No compensation would be paid to former owners who were either Nazis or war criminals, but others would be indemnified by the Allies.

Direct management of the coal mines would be placed in the hands of an international body in which those members of the United Nations directly interested in Germany would be represented.

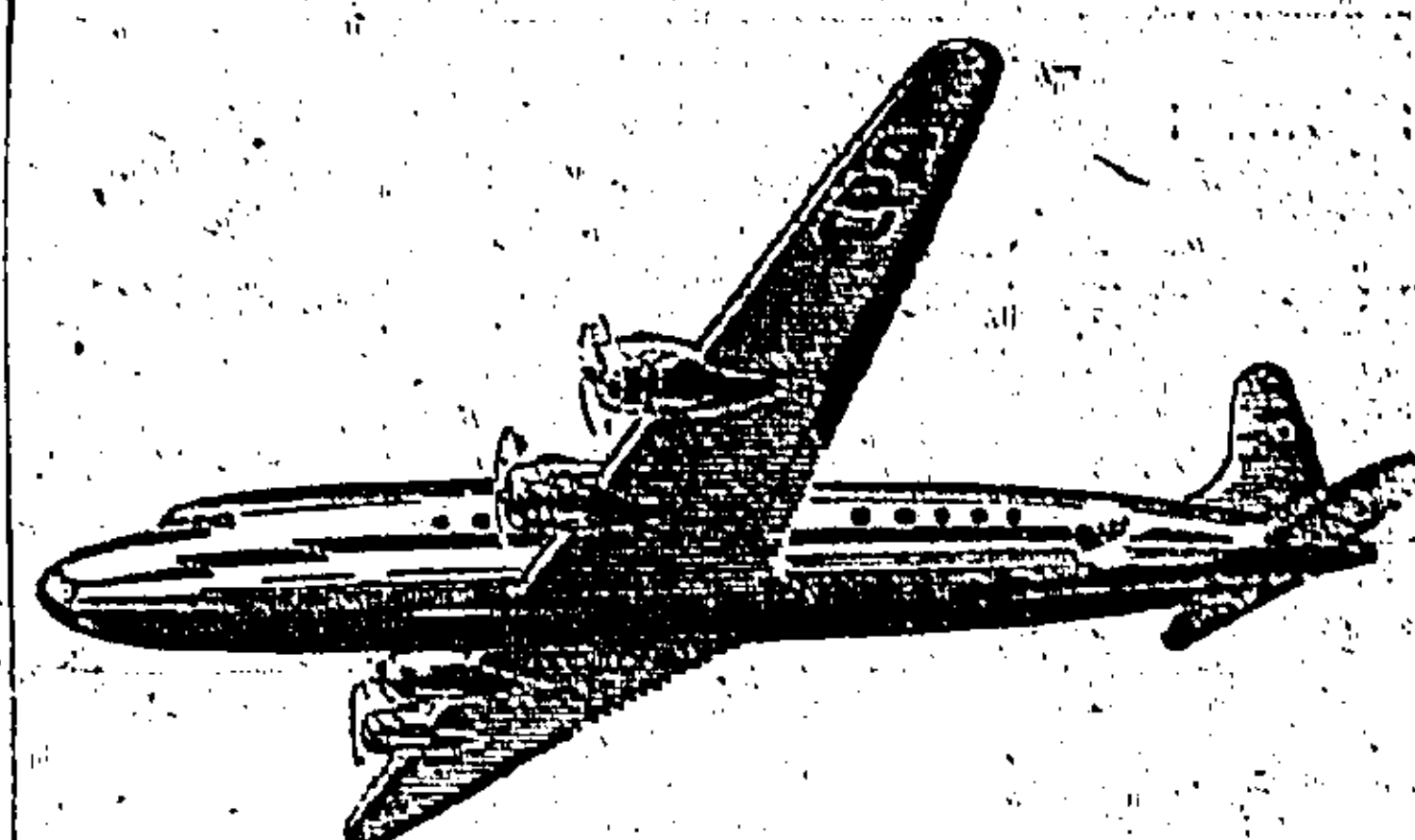
The body would prepare overall production programmes for the Ruhr coal industry and ensure distribution of coal in accordance with the best interests of the European countries as a whole.

Allied Control

The international body would comprise one or two representatives of all interested countries and one or two representatives of local German authorities. The President of this council would be an Allied national and all top-ranking officials in the Ruhr coal industry would be Allied nationals also, with a United Nations representative in charge of each area.

The heads of individual companies would be Germans, who would be directly responsible to the Allies.

The French plan provides for a similar organisation of the Ruhr steel industry, but the mechanical and chemical industries would ultimately come under Allied control, although managed directly by the Germans themselves.—United Press.



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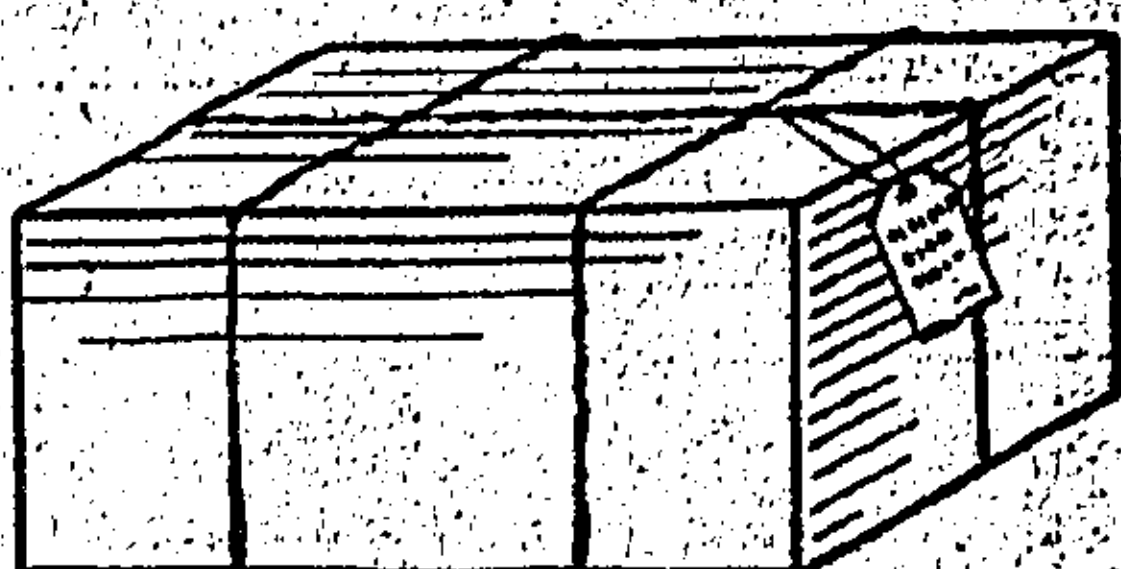
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ENGLAND GO FOR THE RUNS

Sparkling Play By Opening Pair

Aussies' Slight Lead Wiped Out

Adelaide, Feb. 4. A glorious partnership by the MCC's opening batsmen, Hutton and Washbrook, realising 96 runs without the loss of a wicket in their second innings this afternoon, considerably enhanced the English team's position after Australia had finished their first innings 27 runs ahead of the MCC total of 460.

Australia were all out for 487, with Miller staying at the wicket for a total of 141 not out. England in their second innings are 69 ahead with all wickets outstanding.

The morning's play saw the dismissal of Johnson, who was getting settled in a dangerous partnership with Miller. Johnson fell bow to Wright when he was 52.

McCool followed him, caught by Bedford at square leg off Yardley, for 2. The crowd had obviously expected big things of McCool and did not seem to realise that he was out, with the result that he walked half way back to the pavilion before the applause and commotion started.

Tallon replaced McCool just before lunch and scored 3 before the interval. He fell to Wright on the second ball of the first over after lunch with-

out any addition, missing a hook from a very short ball.

Bedford was indisposed after lunch and his fellow Surrey player Fishlock substituted for him, but he returned later in the afternoon.

Lindwall, who replaced Tallon, jumped straight into the bowling without regard for caution and in ten minutes had added 17 runs. This paid dividends for the MCC, however, and Yardley, maintaining his excellent style, forced Lindwall to give a wicket to Evans who sprang from behind the wicket. Lindwall made 20 in 21 minutes.

Yardley's Third

Dooland, the local player, who received a rousing ovation

SHANGHAI WIN IN MACAO

Macao, Feb. 4. The visiting Shanghai football interport team today defeated the local champions, Macao Police, by one goal to nil at the Camidrome. United Press.

from his home-town Adelaide crowd, opened his account with one of the nearest boundaries of the match. Then, however, he slowed down,

naturally preferring to let Miller take the bowling—despite the enthusiasm in the crowd who urged him to do otherwise.

Miller and Dooland appeared all set for a ninth wicket stand and it was not until Dooland had reached 29 that Yardley—taking over from Edrich after a rest—broke up the partnership with Dooland's wicket. Australia had then passed the MCC score.

That made Yardley's third wicket and it is interesting to note that throughout last season's cricket in England, he bowled a total of only 22 overs.

The end came a matter of minutes later when Toshack, the last man, was brilliantly run out by Edrich as Miller attempted a quick single, and the Australian innings finished in the last over before tea.

Fast Scoring

A light shower after two overs of England's second innings interrupted the game for 20 minutes but on resumption Hutton was in grand form and Washbrook scored the next 13 and the two continued with the fastest scoring since the second day's play in the Sydney Test. They liberally sprinkled their play with threes and fours and up 96 runs before stumps were drawn, making an average for the partnership of more than a run a minute. Hutton was then 58—realising his 50 in 57 minutes—and Washbrook 38.

Scoreboard at the close of play.

England 1st Innings 460.

Australia

Harvey, b. Bedford 12

Morris, c. Evans, b. Bedford 122

Bradman, b. Bedford 0

Hassett, c. Hammond, b. Wright 78

Miller, not out 141

Johnson, lbw, b. Wright 62

McCool, c. Bedford, b. Yardley 2

Tallon, b. Wright 3

Lindwall, c. Evans, b. Yardley 20

Dooland, c. Bedford, b. Yardley 29

Toshack, run out 0

Extras 28

487

Bowling

Bedford 30 6 97 3

Wright 32.4 1 162 3

Edrich 20 3 88 0

Yardley 31 7 101 3

Compton 3 0 12 0

Ikin 2 0 9 0

England 2nd Innings

Hutton, not out 58

Washbrook, not out 38

Extras 0

(for 0 wkt.) 96

—Reuter.

Boxing Squabble

Paris, Feb. 3.

Fight promoter Jos Longman said tonight that Marcel Cerdan would not keep his New York engagement scheduled for March 28.

Longman said Cerdan's manager, Lucien Roupp, was calling New York tonight to inform American promoters that Cerdan would not keep the date because of "transportation difficulties."

Longman and other French boxing sources also announced that Cerdan's previously scheduled bouts were "now off" indicating that the squabble between British and French boxing officials also was forcing the cancellation of the Frenchman's scheduled fight with the British champion, Vince Hawkins, on April 2.

Boxing sources did not indicate whether Cerdan also would cancel the bout with the Scotsman, Bert Gilroy, in London on Feb. 11 but since Gilroy is a light heavyweight and Cerdan's title is not involved it is believed that the swarthy Casablanca slugger would keep the date.

The sudden announcement from Cerdan's camp was believed to be the result of wrangling that threatened to split the European Boxing Association over the weekend. The ruling body spent hours arguing whether Cerdan should be recognized as European middle-weight champion after his one punch knockout of the Belgian, Leon Fouquet, last night. British promoters charged the French with dictatorship and unfair discrimination against Hawkins who was listed along with Cerdan as a contender for the open European title by the EBA.—United Press.

Sino-British Opera

It is not often that Hong Kong has an opera, still less a first production (or world premiere) of a Chinese opera in English. Yet that is what will happen today in the Wah Yan College Theatre when "The Spoiled Princess" is publicly staged for the first time. It is quite a unique production. Nothing quite like it has been attempted before. We have had Chinese plays in English, mainly according to the Chinese manner, but never before has a Chinese opera ballet been completely translated into a foreign language. In "The Spoiled Princess" every word is English and every gesture Chinese. Even the songs are Sino-British: the music being Chinese and the words English.

For those who have hoped before they leave China to learn something of the Chinese stage, this is a golden opportunity. For, as a prologue to the performance, a short explanation of Chinese stage conventions will be given. This, together with the production completely in English, will enable them to follow every word and movement. The costumes are the gorgeous and elaborate creations that are usual on the first-class Chinese stage and the cast is led by a professional actor.

This play is being staged in the Wah Yan College Theatre from today. Tickets are now obtainable only at Wah Yan. Phone 23373.

RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.15 p.m., 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., and 9 to 11 p.m. also on 9.62 megacycles. H.K.T.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

1.00 p.m.—Variety.

1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.15 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.

1.30 p.m.—Overseas News, Sports and Music of the River.

1.45 p.m.—Piano & A Violin—Ellen Joyce and Alfredo Campoli.

2.00 p.m.—Class Down.

2.30 p.m.—Variety.

4.45 p.m.—Commentary on the Test Match.

4.55 p.m.—Variety (Cont'd).

7.00 p.m.—London Relay: Home News (Cont'd).

7.10 p.m.—London Relay: Home News from Britain.

7.15 p.m.—"We Sing for You" Tians Lunghua (Soprano)—Korean Ball (Song).

7.30 p.m.—Studio: "I bring you music." Classical Request Programme arranged by Ivan Fraser.

8.00 p.m.—With Elton.

8.30 p.m.—London Relay: News.

9.10 p.m.—Interlude.

9.15 p.m.—London Relay: A Talk—"Think on These Things."

81 BELOW

Dawson City, Feb. 3. For the third time within a week, a new North American low temperature was recorded at Snag in Yukon territory.

A temperature of 81 degrees below zero was recorded yesterday and exceeded Saturday's low temperature by two degrees.—Reuter.

"Sai On" Fire Disaster

(Continued from Page 1)

cars which had been kept in the front of the ship, and consisting mostly of scrap iron and pipe and bales of Norwegian paper, lay damaged.

Charged clothing, suitcases, the remnants of personal belongings and blackened wads of banknotes lay around unheeded by the rescuers and workers.

Inside the rusted iron gratings of the stern could be seen the piled up bodies of victims who had been unable to escape.

Still at the end of the wharf were the small roasted bodies of children and women, waiting to be loaded aboard trucks and driven to the mortuary.

The dead were brought out one by one. It seemed impossible that the charred remnants that lay on the stretchers had only a few hours before been living flesh and blood citizens intent on the 80-mile trip to Canton.

Very few of the bodies could be recognised by bystanders as men or women. The body of one woman was identified only by the bangles hanging from her blackened wrists.

As they lay on their backs on the stretchers most of the bodies had upstretched arms and curled hands and fingers. Flesh hung in charred lumps to their forearms which here and there retained parts of clothing.

In the early afternoon the body of a Chinese woman, face downwards in the water, floated by the ship. Fire workers, with the aid of a huge hooked bamboo pole dragged her aboard.

Inquiry To Be Held?

Crowds of interested and morbidly curious Chinese who assembled in the early morning were kept from the sight of burned and contracted bodies—several of them split open—by cordons of police which held them back one hundred yards on either side of the pier.

Interviewed by the "China Mail" Mr. G. L. Fenton, Managing Director of the Tung On S.S. Co. Ltd., owners of the "Sai On," said that there were no European passengers on board at the time of the fire. The number of passengers was estimated to be 300.

Mr. Fenton said that the ship was insured for \$800,000, out of which \$600,000 is covered by the Union Insurance Society of Canton Limited.

It was persistently rumoured last night that the Tung On S.S. Co. Ltd., had received several threatening letters lately.

Yesterday afternoon, when the "China Mail" representative called at the office of the Tung On S.S. Co. Ltd., the surviving members of the crew were being paid off. It is understood that each member of the crew received half a month's salary and \$200 as compensation.

Approached regarding the possibility of an inquiry into the disaster, Commander Jolly, Harbour Master, said that until the Captain's report was submitted to him, he could not say whether an inquiry would be held.

Commander Jolly said that the Captain's report would be submitted at 9.30 this morning and that after consideration he would or would not recommend that an inquiry be held.

An appeal was made by Government last night to friends and relatives to identify the victims at the Victoria Public Mortuary as soon as possible.

The "Sai On" had an exciting career in the Pacific war. She was taken by her crew out of Hong Kong to Macao just before the outbreak of war and in September, 1943, was seized by Japanese in a daring coup at the Macao wharves and brought back to Hong Kong.

Week-End Yachting

Weather was ideal for sailing in the harbour last weekend, with some warm sunshine to take the edge off the early winter. 17 dinghies and 4 stars raced on Saturday afternoon.

Results of the individual races were as follows.

STARS

Saturday Afternoon

1st. "Daphne" Howman-Mack 1.41.05

2nd. "Beritach" Blandy 1.43.12

3rd. "Daphne" Howman-Mack 1.43.12

4th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

5th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

6th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

7th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

8th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

9th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

10th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

11th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

12th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

13th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

14th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

15th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

16th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

17th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

18th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

19th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

20th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

21st. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

22nd. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

23rd. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

24th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

25th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

26th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

27th. "Alain" Thomas 1.43.58

Britain Plays Poland In Davis Cup

Washington, Feb. 3.

The draw for the first round of the Davis Cup competition was made here today and resulted as follows:

European Zone: South Africa, The Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Britain, Poland and Ireland received byes into the second round.

First round draw: Belgium v Luxembourg, Sweden v Czechoslovakia and Greece v Switzerland.

New Zealand, Norway, France, India, Mexico and Denmark also received byes in the European Zone.

American Zones: Australia v Canada.

The order of the second round byes in the European Zone is: top half—Poland v Britain, South Africa v The Netherlands, Yugoslavia v Ireland, Bottom half—New Zealand v Norway, France v India and Mexico v Denmark.

President Truman made the draw in his office. He drew from the Cup itself, which had been brought to the White House with 20 envelopes, each bearing the country's name and thereby decided the order in which the challengers to the present holders—the United States—will play.

After completing the draw, President Truman said: "I know well we will have some wonderful matches and I hope the Cup will stay in America for a little while."

Immediately after the White House ceremony, the American Lawn Tennis Association announced that the Challenge Round for the Cup would be played at Forest Hills, New York, on the three days beginning Aug. 30.

The inter-zone final between the winners of the European and American groups must be completed by Aug. 18.

Although there are the same number of challengers this year as last, six nations have dropped out of the competition and six countries will be competing for the first time since the war.

Spain, Turkey, Egypt, China, the Philippines and Mexico have not challenged. The new challengers are Greece, Poland, South Africa, Luxembourg, India and Norway.

Probably the keenest of the first round European Zone matches to be played will be between Sweden, winners of the Zone last year, and Czechoslovakia.

Poland and Britain, who clash in the second round, last met in the third round of the 1932 competition in Warsaw, when Britain won by four matches to one.

South Africa, who have a second round tie with The Netherlands, beat them 5/0 in Amsterdam in the first round in 1937.

Yugoslavia were drawn against Ireland in 1939. They met again in the second round this time.—Reuter.

Farcical Cup Match

London, Feb. 3.

Playing in near Arctic conditions, with workmen keeping the goal and touch lines clear of snow, the Second Division club, Leicester City, defeated Brentford, of the premier league, at Villa Park, Birmingham, today in the second replay of their fourth round Football Association Cup tie by four goals to one.

The treacherous state of the ground and the continual fall of snow made football almost a farce.

Leicester will visit Newcastle in the next round on Saturday, in which eight Second Division clubs will be represented.

With the passing of Brentford, the only London side left in the competition is Charlton.

Bolton Wanderers defeated Leeds United by two goals to nil.

The games between Sheffield United and Charlton and Wolverhampton and Blackburn were postponed owing to snow.—Reuter.

QUEEN MOTHER INDISPOSED

London, Feb. 4.

"Queen Mary" has suffered a slight illness and her physician advised her to remain in bed for a few days.

She cancelled all plans to see the stage play of "Murder in the Cathedral."—Associated Press.

Commando Officer As Witness

Expert evidence on hand grenades was given by Capt. P. J. Owens, R.M., Brigade Engineering Officer, attached to 3 Commando, at the Committal proceedings summed hearing of against three alleged terrorists on the charge of demanding money with menaces from the Wah Yik Pawn Shop of Nam Cheung Street, Shamshuipo.

Witness testified that the small hand grenade, formerly known as Mills and now renamed "British No. 36," has a lethal range of 25 yards and a danger area of 100 yards. The time delay is from four to seven seconds. The two stick-type grenades shown him, said witness, are known as Japanese H.E. Stock, and have a lethal range of approximately 25 yards with an estimated danger area of 100 yards. The time delay is between four and five seconds. Capt. Owens also explained how these grenades are operated.

Ng Ching-han, the wife of N. Kai-sui (the suspect who escaped from Police custody) stated that Chan Tai-so and his wife stayed in her flat for some time, and that about 10 days after he had moved out he went to the house and placed an oval object, with marks across, on the foot of her bed. When she asked her husband what the object was, said witness, she was told to mind her own business.

S/T A. Morrison, OIC Finger Print Bureau and Photographic Sub Dept., gave formal evidence of having photographed a piece of blotting paper with reversed writing on Dec. 3 last.

In his opinion, said Mr. Ma Kiam, Lecturer in the School of Chinese Studies, Hongkong University, the hand writing on the four letters shown him by D. I. Williamson was identical to that of the two specimens given him by the Police.

The Manager of the Wah Yik Pawn Shop, Lo Kai-lo, declared that on Aug. 18 his accountant, Lo Sang, handed him two letters, signed by one "Chan Wai" and demanding payment of the sum of \$500. These letters were handed over to the Police the following day. Another letter, also from "Chan Wai" but with TNT address, under the name, was handed to him by another accountant, Li Wing, on Nov. 17, while a fourth one was given him on the following day. He handed both of these epistles to the Police, and agreed to have detectives inside his premises to follow further developments.

At the close of the Crown's case, conducted by D. I. Williamson, OIC CID, Shamshuipo, Mr. Blair-Kerr committed all the three accused to stand trial at this month's Criminal Sessions.

The accused are:

Chan Fui, alias Chan Tai-so (Chan the Big Fool), charged with aiding and abetting in the uttering of a letter demanding money with menaces, possession of a letter demanding money with menaces, possession of three hand grenades (two charges), and counselling and procuring the demand by menaces.

Fung Nam, charged with counselling and procuring, and possession of the felony of uttering a letter demanding money with menaces.

So Yee, charged with demanding money with menaces.

The gramophone record to be held at the Forces Education Centre, Kennedy Road on Friday at 8 p.m. will include:

Overture—William Tell (Rossini); Sonata in D (Haydn); Pictures at an Exhibition (Mussorgsky); Scherzo from Concerto Symphonique (Lidolf); Archduke Trio (Beethoven).

Civilians and Service personnel are invited and refreshments may be obtained during the interval.

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SUGGESTION TO H.K. CHINESE

(Continued from Page 1)

As remedies, the writer suggests a stand by the more responsible Chinese residents of the Colony against continuous anti-foreign and especially anti-British propaganda. Some curb, he urges, must be put upon the unbridled licence at present enjoyed by the Kuomintang-controlled press, especially in connection with cases which are sub judice. He also urged that sooner or later some restrictions upon Chinese immigration must be imposed, as the Colony's water supply, housing and other problems, cannot cope with unrestricted immigration. As regards the proposed representative Government, he suggests that voters should be confined to British subjects, regardless of race, and he suggests that only persons who are willing to become loyal, peaceful and law-abiding citizens should be welcomed to the Colony.

The Future

Finally, he urges that the future progress and rehabilitation of Hong Kong must depend upon a clear statement regarding the future status of the Colony.

He advocates that it should be made plain that Hong Kong and Kowloon will remain a British colony and that the status of the leased territories will remain unchanged until 1997.

No large and costly projects such as the construction of a new and modern airport can be looked for if it is suspected that it is the Government's intention to return Hong Kong to China in the not distant future.

With the example of de-terioration in Shanghai, any suggestion would be calamitous, he concludes.—Reuter.